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February 13, 2003

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Marlene H. Dortch, Esquire
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Notification of Ex Parte Communication
MB Docket Nos. 02-277, 01-235, 96-197, 01-317, and 00-244

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This is to advise you, in accordance with Section 1.1206 of the FCC's rules, that on February 11, 2003, George Mahoney, General Counsel and Secretary of Media General, Inc., and I met with the following individuals from the Media Bureau to discuss Media General, Inc.'s interest in repeal of the newspaper/broadcast cross-ownership rule in all markets: Paul Gallant, Esquire; Royce Sherlock, Esquire; Mania Baghdadi, Esquire; Marcia Glauberman; Judith Herman; Roger Holberg, Esquire; and Debra Sabourin, Esquire.

The discussion addressed Media General's reasons for repeal of the rule; the public interest benefits, such as the delivery of more and better local news, that result from convergence of newspaper and broadcast properties; Media General's experience that there is no "real world" connection between diversity of ownership and viewpoint; Media General's concern over any FCC attempt to craft a single rule to address ownership of various types of media outlets, including newspapers; Media General's view that including the newspaper/broadcast cross-ownership rule within the scope of such a unitary rule would violate Equal Protection precedents; and Media General's view that spectrum scarcity no longer exists.

Along with a copy of this letter, Media General is delivering to each of the individuals in yesterday's meeting a copy of the comments and reply comments that Media General filed in the above-referenced dockets on January 2, 2003, and February 3, 2003, respectively. Please note that the copy of reply comments that is being delivered reflects a minor correction in the fourth line of text on page 25, where the word "retention" has been changed to "repeal." We regret this minor error, which was not corrected in the copy of the reply comments filed on February 3, 2003.